is concerned, when is he going to announce the long term policy? Has he made any study with regard to its impact on the people of this country?

SHRI RAM NAIK: Sir, the long term policy can be finalised once a view is taken by the Cabinet on the report which will be submitted by the Group of Ministers. But, the point is that gas is a requirement; gas is the fuel of the 21st century, and therefore, more and more gas is required. We are producing it indigenously, and, we are also going to import LNG from January, 2004. Therefore, based on that, we are considering how to do it.

SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Sir, we are slowly withdrawing subsidies on power and fertilizers. In the event of decontrolling of gas, what will be its impact on fertilizer and power, since farmers are facing a lot of problems in putting their money in agriculture?

SHRI RAM NAIK: That is the issue which is under consideration and as soon as a decision is finalised, it will be known. But, we are concerned about the fate of farmers as well as the industry; and keeping that in mind, a decision will be taken.

*232. *[The questioner (Shri Rama Muni Reddy) was absent. For answer vide page 36-37.]*

*233. *[The questioner (Shri T.S. Baswa) was absent. For answer vide page 38.]*

**जलाशयों का निर्माण**

*234. **श्री कपिल सिब्बल:**

**श्री लाजपत राय: '†'**

क्या जल संसाधन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार के पास दसवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान समुद्र में अप्रयुक्त बहने वाले जल के भण्डारण हेतु बड़े और छोटे जलाशयों का निर्माण करने की कोई योजना है;

(ख) समुद्र में बह जाने वाले अप्रयुक्त जल की अनुमानित औसत मात्रा कितनी है; और

(ग) दसवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान कितने नये जलाशयों का निर्माण किए जाने की संभावना है और उनकी भण्डारण क्षमता कितनी होगी?

**जल संसाधन मंत्री (श्री अर्जुन चरण सेठी):** (क) से (ग) विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

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'†' The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Lajpat Rai.

**Construction of reservoirs**

†*234. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:††

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to construct large and small water reservoirs in the country during the Tenth Five Year Plan to store water that flows into ocean unutilised;

(b) the estimated average quantity of water that flows into the ocean unutilized; and

(c) the number of new water reservoirs likely to be constructed during the Tenth Five Year Plan, togetherwith their storage capacity?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

***Statement***

(a) Water being a State Subject, river valley projects involving storage of water in reservoirs of varying capacities are conceived, planned and executed by the respective State Governments according to their own priorities. As per information provided by the States to the Working Group on Major and Medium Irrigation Programme for the Tenth Five Year Plan, 67 major and 130 medium projects are planned to be taken up during Tenth Five Year Plan for water utilization.

(b) The average annual flow in rivers of the country has been assessed as 1869 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM). Out of this the average annual utilizable water is about 1122 BCM. Presently 605 BCM of water is being utilized for diverse purposes.

(c) As per the Tenth Five Year Plan document of the Planning Commission, it is expected that 103 major and 240 medium projects may be completed during the Tenth Five Year Plan. This includes the projects spilling over from the previous plans to the Tenth Five Year

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.
†† The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Lajpat Rai.

Plan. The total live storage capacity of the existing reservoirs in the country is about 177 BCM. With the completion of ongoing projects, the live storage capacity is likely to further increase by about 75 BCM. Further, projects having additional live storage capacity of about 132 BCM are under formulation/consideration.

**श्री लाजपत राय:** चेयरमैन सर, माननीय मंत्री जी ने अपने जवाब में बताया है कि इस वर्ष 103 और 240 मेजर मीडिया प्रोजेक्ट्स कम्पलीट हो जाएंगे। पहले यह बताया था कि इस साल में 67 मेजर और 130 मीडियम प्रोजेक्ट्स कम्पलीट होंगे। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि ये जो 36 मेजर और 110 मीडियम प्रोजेक्ट्स हैं, ये कब से चले आ रहे हैं और कब तक कम्पलीट हो जाएंगे?

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Sir, the question is whether the Government have any plan to construct large and small water reservoirs in the Tenth Five Year Plan. I have given the information that in the Tenth Five Year Plan, 67 major and 130 medium projects are proposed to be taken up.

*235. *[The questioner (Shri Rajkumar Dhoot) was absent. For answer vide page 38-39.]*

**World Bank assistance for water supply schemes in Maharashtra**

*236. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Bank has provided Rs. 1600 crore financial aid for implementation of pending water supply schemes of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the financial aid to be spent for Vidarbha region; and

(c) the details of the pending schemes in the State in which Government have participation?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.